## Express Mail Label No. EV396083311US PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Bartholomä et al.

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Our File: SMB-PT114

(PC 03 214 M US)

Date: October 6, 2004

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows: